

**REMARKS**

This is a full and timely response to the Final Office Action mailed on November 4, 2003. Reexamination and reconsideration in light of the following remarks are courteously requested.

Claims 6, 25-29, 31, 37 and 43-66 are currently pending in this application, with claims 6, 25 and 49 being independent. No new matter has been added.

This amendment *prima facie* places the case in condition for allowance. Alternatively, it places this case in better condition for appeal. Accordingly, entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

**Drawing objections**

The Office Action request corrected drawings. In response, corrected drawings are provided along with this amendment. Withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

**Claim objections**

The Office Action includes an objection to claim 13. While not conceding the propriety of this objection, and in order to

further the prosecution of the application, claim 13 has been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of its underlying subject matter. Withdrawal of this objection is respectfully requested.

**Rejection Under 35 U.S.C. §102**

Claims 3, 5-7, 11, 13-20, 23-29, 31, 37, 43-48 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent 4,825,203 issued to Takeda et al. (Takeda).

This rejection is respectfully traversed for at least the following reasons.

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." *Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987).

**Claim 6**

Applicant, seeking review of the prematureness of the final rejection of claim 6 within the Final Office Action, respectfully requests reconsideration of the finality of the Office action for

the reasons set forth hereinbelow. See M.P.E.P §706.07(c).

Rejected claim 6, which has been amended to place that claim into independent form, is characterized in that the plurality of driver circuits are driver ICs arranged in an outside of a transparent insulating substrate on which the display portion is formed. However, a review of Takeda reveals that a "substrate" is not found therein. In addition, Takeda is silent as to the substrate being a "transparent insulating substrate".

Because a "substrate" or a "transparent insulating substrate" are not found within Takeda, all features within claim 6 are not found within Takeda. Thus, the final rejection of at least claim 6 is improper and premature as a result.

If the allowance of claim 6 is not forthcoming at the very least and a new grounds of rejection made, then a new non-final Office Action is respectfully requested.

**Claims 3, 5, 7, 11, 13-20 and 23-24**

While not conceding the propriety of these rejections, and in order to further the prosecution of the application, claims 3, 5, 7, 11, 13-20 and 23-24 have been canceled without prejudice or disclaimer of their underlying subject matter, rendering the

rejection moot as to these claims.

In addition, rejected claim 3 and the claims dependent thereon provide that when a size of a frame portion adjacent to the display portion is specified, the number (n) of output terminals of each of the plurality of driver circuits is determined on the basis of the specified frame size by the number of lines which can be wired into a wiring region of the frame portion, and when the total number of signal lines of the plurality of columns that is decided by a display system is set to N, the number of the driver circuits is set to  $N/n$ , the total number of signal lines being different than the number (n) of output terminals.

The Final Office Action cites elements  $q_1$ - $q_N$  of Takeda as the plurality of driver circuits. While figure 1(A) of Takeda arguably depicts elements  $q_1$ - $q_N$  at the output of shift register 31, the description found within Takeda fails to provide, with particularity, a written definition for elements  $q_1$ - $q_N$ .

Instead, Takeda arguably teaches that "the column electrode drive circuit mainly comprises a shift register (31) which outputs a signal corresponding to the display pattern to each column electrode line" (figures 1(A), (B), column 4, lines 29-31), that "the signals required for sequential display are input to

the gate circuit (37) from the shift register" (column 4, lines 59-61), and that "a shift register (31) that outputs signals to each column electrode line corresponding to the display pattern" (figure 5(A), column 6, lines 12-14). As shown above, Takeda arguably teaches elements  $q_1$ - $q_N$  as "signals" while failing to disclose, teach or suggest elements  $q_1$ - $q_N$  as "a plurality of driver circuits".

Moreover, calculations provided within the Final Office Action arguably teach the total number of signal lines in Takeda as being the same as the number (n) of output terminals of each of the plurality of driver circuits. However, the claimed invention provides that the total number of signal lines is different than the number (n) of output terminals of each of the plurality of driver circuits.

**Claims 25-29, 31, 37, 43-48**

Applicant, seeking review of the prematureness of the final rejection of claim 25 within the Final Office Action, respectfully requests reconsideration of the finality of the Office action for the reasons set forth hereinbelow. See M.P.E.P §706.07(c).

Claim 25 and the claims dependent thereon comprise a

plurality of driver circuits including at least one general driver circuit wherein a general driver circuit output terminal provides a signal potential to one of the plurality of signal lines. The plurality of driver circuits further includes one remainder driver circuit wherein a remainder driver circuit output terminal provides another signal potential to another of the plurality of signal lines.

The Final Office Action contends that Takeda depicts row electrodes 11-a as a plurality of gate lines 11-a and column electrodes 11-b as a plurality of signal lines 11-b. Thus, the Final Office Action identifies the row electrodes 11-a as the plurality of gate lines 11-a, and not as the plurality of signal lines.

But while figure 1(A) of Takeda arguably depicts plurality of driver circuits having a column electrode drive circuit 13 (column 4, line 23) providing signals to column electrodes 11-b (column 3, lines 4-6), and figure 3(A) of Takeda arguably depicts a row electrode drive circuit 121,122 (column 4, lines 11-12) providing signals to row electrodes 11-a (column 3, lines 1-2), Takeda fails to disclose, teach or suggest both the column electrode drive circuit 13 and the row electrode drive circuit 121,122 providing signal potentials to column electrodes 11-b.

Thus, Takeda fails to disclose, teach or suggest column electrode drive circuit 13 and the row electrode drive circuit 121,122 as the plurality of driver circuits found within claim 25 and the claims dependent thereon since the claimed plurality of driver circuits provide a signal potential to the plurality of signal lines whereas the row electrode drive circuit 121,122 of Takeda provides signal potentials to the row electrodes 11-a and not to the column electrodes 11-b.

The Final Office Action cites elements  $q_1$ - $q_N$  of Takeda as the plurality of driver circuits. While figure 1(A) of Takeda arguably depicts elements  $q_1$ - $q_N$  at the output of shift register 31, the description found within Takeda fails to provide, with particularity, a written definition for elements  $q_1$ - $q_N$ . Instead, Takeda arguably teaches that "the column electrode drive circuit mainly comprises a shift register (31) which outputs a signal corresponding to the display pattern to each column electrode line" (figures 1(A), (B), column 4, lines 29-31), that "the signals required for sequential display are input to the gate circuit (37) from the shift register" (column 4, lines 59-61), and that "a shift register (31) that outputs signals to each column electrode line corresponding to the display pattern" (figure 5(A), column 6, lines 12-14). As shown above, Takeda arguably teaches elements  $q_1$ - $q_N$  as "signals" while failing to

disclose, teach or suggest elements  $q_1$ - $q_N$  as "a plurality of driver circuits".

Also note that figure 1(A) of Takeda depicts buffer 36 as having only a single output  $Q_N$ , and not two (2) outputs as contended within the Office Action, and that a single signal  $q_N$  shown within figure 1(A) of Takeda corresponds only to a single output  $Q_N$ .

Moreover, claim 25 and the claims dependent thereon provide that the quantity of general driver circuit output terminals are different than the quantity of remainder driver circuit output terminals. But as shown within figure 1(A) there is the same quantity of outputs from each of the buffers 36, there is the same quantity of outputs from each of the analog switches 32, 34, and there is the same quantity of outputs from each of the gate circuits 37.

The Final Office Action further contends that each general driver circuit has a plurality of general driver circuit output terminals 36. But since each of the signals  $q_1$ - $q_N$  of Takeda are uniquely associated with a buffer 36, this contention is inconsistent at least with the other contention regarding claim 25 made within the Final Office Action that elements  $q_1$ - $q_N$  of Takeda are the plurality of driver circuits.



The Final Office Action asserts without provided any evidentiary support that there are two (2) remainder driver circuit output terminals, five (5) plurality of signal lines, three (3) general driver circuit output terminals, and two (2) plurality of driver circuits.

In response, this unsupported assertion amounts to nothing more than conclusions that are personal in nature because the cited prior art does not contain a sufficient teaching of how to obtain the desired result, or that the claimed result would be obtained if certain directions were pursued. In this regard, the teachings, suggestions or incentives supporting the rejection must be clear and particular.

As a rule, "assertions of technical facts in areas of esoteric technology must always be supported by citation to some reference work recognized as standard in the pertinent art and the appellant given, in the Patent Office, the opportunity to challenge the correctness of the assertion or the notoriety or repute of the cited reference." (Citations omitted). *In re Pardo and Landau*, 214 USPQ 673, 677 (CCPA 1982). The support must have existed at the time the claimed invention was made. *In re Merck & Co., Inc.*, 231 USPQ 375, 379 (Fed. Cir. 1986). Broad conclusory statements standing alone are not evidence.

If the allowance of claim 25 is not forthcoming at the very least and a new grounds of rejection made, then a new non-final Office Action is respectfully requested.

**Claims 49-66**

Claim 49 and the claims dependent thereon are drawn to a liquid crystal display that include:

a display portion having a plurality of gate lines, a plurality of signal lines and a plurality of pixels,

a pixel of said plurality of pixels being located at an intersection of a gate line of said plurality of gate lines and a signal line of said plurality of signal lines; and

a plurality of driver circuits, wherein each of said plurality of driver circuits having a plurality of driver circuit output terminals,

a driver circuit output terminal of said a plurality of driver circuit output terminals providing a signal potential to a signal line of said plurality of signal lines,

the quantity of said driver circuit output terminals being the same quantity for said each of said plurality of driver circuits, and

the quantity of said driver circuits being defined as  $N/n$ , wherein "N" is the quantity of said signal lines and "n" is said quantity of said driver circuit output terminals.

These features are not found within Takeda at least for the following reasons.

While the Final Office Action contends that the number of output terminals found within Takeda is set to "1", claims 49-66 provide that each of the plurality of driver circuits have a plurality of driver circuit output terminals. As a result, the analysis using the assumptions found within the Final Office Action is not deemed applicable at least as to claims 49-66. Allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

### **Conclusion**

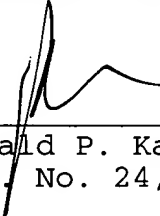
For the foregoing reasons, all the claims now pending in the present application are believed to be clearly patentable over the prior art of record. Accordingly, favorable reconsideration of the newly presented claims in light of the above remarks is courteously solicited.

If the Examiner has any comments or suggestions that could

place this application in even better form, the Examiner is requested to telephone Brian K. Dutton, Reg. No. 47,255, at 202-955-8753.

If any fee is required or any overpayment made, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the fee or credit the overpayment to Deposit Account # 18-0013.

Respectfully submitted,



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